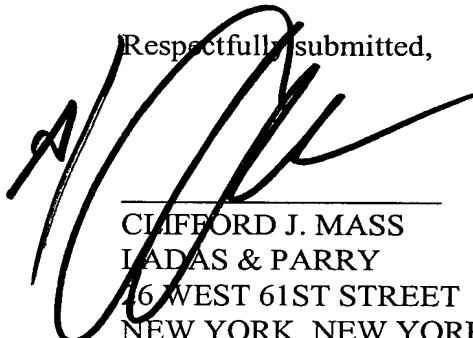


REMARKS

The above amendatory action is taken solely for the purpose of avoiding claim fees that would otherwise accrue due to the presence of multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,


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12. (amended) The ink according to [any one of claims 4 to 11] claim 4, wherein said ink has a surface tension at 25°C of 40 mN/m or less.

13. (amended) The ink according to [any one of claims 4 to 12] claim 4, containing at least one of 0% to 20% by weight of di (tri) ethylene glycol monobutyl ether and 0% to 10% by weight of (di) propylene glycol monobutyl ether, each based on the weight of said ink.

14. (amended) The ink according to [any one of claims 4 to 12] claim 4, containing a 1,2-alkylene glycol having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms in an amount of 0% to 10% by weight based on the weight of said ink.

15. (amended) The ink according to any one of claims 4 to 12, containing an acetylene glycol surfactant in an amount of 0% to 5% by weight based on the weight of said ink.

16. (amended) The ink according to [any one of claims 4 to 15] claim 4, containing at least one substance represented by formula (2) below in an amount of 0% to 10% by weight based on the weight of said ink:



wherein R represents an alkyl group having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms, which may be

branched, a cycloalkyl group or a phenyl group; EP represents an ethyleneoxy group and/or a propyleneoxy group; and m represents an average number of the repeating units.

20. (amended) The ink according to [any one of claims 4 to 19] claim 4, wherein said ink is for ink jet recording.